

Against Women's Act [VAWA] last year, funding for the important programs created by VAWA has lagged. Earlier this year, the House approved the Commerce, State, Justice appropriations bill which provided \$124.5 million for VAWA programs. This figure is \$50 million more than originally recommended by the House Appropriations Committee, however, it is still \$50 million less than the amount authorized by VAWA. This is appalling.

Last year, Congress appropriated \$10 billion to help the survivors of the Los Angeles earthquake. In 1991, we sent \$900 million in aid for victims of Hurricane Bob. After the Los Angeles riots in 1992, the Federal Government contributed to the cleanup efforts. In the same year, Congress provided assistance for many victims of Hurricane Andrew. Spending this money was necessary and I supported it. But just as we assist victims of periodic natural disasters, we must also help the victims of the on-going tragedies which occur in our backyards everyday—survivors of domestic violence.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month is an opportunity to inform the public about this devastating crime. But more needs to be done. We, in Congress, have an obligation to ensure the safety of all women in this country and I will continue to work toward this goal.

DR. FRANK P. WRIGHT RESIGNS

HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 1995

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, the following editorial published in the Indianapolis News this past weekend, does not overstate the accomplishments and the goodness of Dr. Frank P. Lloyd. It would be impossible to say too much good about this magnificent man.

[From the Indianapolis News, Oct. 28, 1995]

A ONE-IN-A-MILLION LEADER

Too often, the work of a soft-spoken leader goes without due recognition. Such is the case with Dr. Frank P. Lloyd, who resigned last week from the White River State Park Development Commission.

Lloyd has served tirelessly on that body since 1979, when it began its work to create an urban park for the people of Indianapolis. His work for the commission, however, is just one of many of his efforts to better this city.

Upon hearing of Lloyd's resignation, U.S. Rep. Andy Jacobs Jr. called him a "civil saint" and one of "God's noblemen."

A summary of a few of his accomplishments explains that description.

Lloyd, who will turn 76 this month, received his medical degree from Howard University in 1946 and built a career as an obstetrician. Along the way, he also became involved in many community projects.

In 1968, Lloyd got the idea to give Indianapolis its first radio station with a goal to serve the black community. He and 11 Democrats put their money together and bought a license and began to broadcast on WTLC-FM.

Lloyd also was the chairman of Midwest National Bank, where he put high priority on opening up lending opportunities for minorities.

In a 1993 interview with News reporter Marion Garmel, he said: "What I believe as a black male is that if you're going to try to do something in a community at all, you need three things: access to media, access to money and access to the political world."

He has been successful at all three.

Lloyd has served on the boards of many organizations, including Indiana Bell Telephone, Ameritech, the Christian Theological Seminary, Community Leaders Allied for Superior Schools and the Indiana Advisory Board of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

He was president of the Metropolitan Planning Commission in the 1970s and was chairman of the prestigious American Planning Association, which develops urban policy.

Lloyd also has recognized women deserving of leadership positions. During his stint at Methodist Hospital, from which he retired as president and chief executive officer, Lloyd promoted two women to senior management positions, something that had not been done before.

He also has mustered support for health programs for women and children. When Sen. Richard Lugar was in Indianapolis a few weeks ago, he praised Lloyd during a luncheon speech, crediting him for his work.

"I remember Dr. Frank Lloyd, when I was mayor, said that the best index of the civilization of this city is the infant mortality rate. It tells you very rapidly the sense of concern that people have for each other in a community sense," said Sen. Lugar.

Lloyd clearly has a strong sense of concern for the people of Indianapolis. His accomplishments—there have been for so many to list here—bear that out.

Although he would not seek out recognition for his good deeds, we choose to acknowledge them here, as well as offer a heartfelt thank-you on behalf of the entire community.

ABUSE OF PROCESS ON OMNIBUS RECONCILIATION BILL

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 31, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned about the process the House followed in considering the omnibus reconciliation bill. Those concerns are outlined in my statement before the Committee on Rules on this bill.

I believe that his process represents an unprecedented attack on this institution. I hope my colleagues will keep in mind the concerns outlined in my statement as the House and Senate meet to conference this bill.

H.R. 2517, THE OMNIBUS RECONCILIATION BILL

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Moakley, and other members of the Committee on Rules, I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you on H.R. 2517, the omnibus reconciliation package.

I am here today because I am troubled by the pattern of abuse of the legislative process that has been developing during this Congress. This bill exemplifies that abuse.

Now I know that reconciliation bills under Democratic majorities were not pure. Problems with the process have been growing over the years, given that the original reconciliation bill dealt with \$8 billion, and today we cannot even estimate the total sums both "reconciled" and authorized in this package.

This reconciliation bill enters a new universe in its breadth, the sheer number and complexity of proposals, and the extent to which committees of jurisdiction—and thus, all Members of the minority—were shut out of developing this package.

The reconciliation package contains three large items and several smaller provisions

that fall within the jurisdiction of the International Relations Committee.

First, H.R. 2517 contains a major legislative proposal dramatically changing the configuration of the Commerce Department. The Committee has jurisdiction over international trade issues, so the dismantlement of the Commerce Department causes great concern. The Committee never considered the measure.

Second, the bill "deems" enacted the entire foreign affairs agencies' reorganization bill. Action has not yet been completed in the Senate.

Third, the bill contains the text of H.R. 927, the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity Act, approved by the House last month. This bill was altered substantially by the Senate, and should be scheduled for conference.

The purpose of a reconciliation bill is to bring direct spending in line with the targets set by the budget resolution. Among the many problems with this bill, these items in the jurisdiction of the International Relations Committee have nothing to do with budget reconciliation. These items will cost money.

Quite simply, this is the wrong way for the House to go about its business.

PROBLEMS WITH THE PROCESS

(1) This process places enormous power in the Leadership, who will consult only with those persons and groups they want to include.

The Committee is bypassed, an entire House of the Congress is bypassed. All decisionmaking about the issues occurs behind closed doors in a group formed by the leaders of the majority. Final decisions are made by the Speaker. You have created a largely secret system.

This is a system which reduces accountability. It is an entirely closed process. The average American has no way of learning which Members are involved, which special interest groups are consulted or locked out, and what positions Members have taken on a proposal until it is too late and the House has voted.

Many members of both parties with significant expertise were simply not welcome to contribute to the process.

(2) This process bypasses and undermines the entire committee system.

When the Chairman decides to waive consideration of bills that are central to the committee's jurisdiction, most Members—including all Members of the minority—are shut out. The Commerce proposal in a case in point. Our Committee had no role in developing that proposal. We held no hearings on this proposal, there was no debate, we had no markup, no amendments were permitted, we did not vote. We defaulted on our responsibilities.

The Committee is also stripped of its responsibilities when items that it has considered and moved through the House are included in the reconciliation package. Moving the Committee's foreign affairs reorganization bill or the Cuba bill through the reconciliation bill removes the Committee from meaningful participation in a conference. It puts these major foreign policy bills into a conference with a mix of 1000 other domestic items. The substance of these bills will not likely be discussed in a reconciliation conference.

In the last Congress, Republicans and Democrats working on congressional reform talked about streamlining, modernizing, rationalizing, and enhancing the committee system. Congressman Dreier and I worked many long hours on these issues. But we did not talk about what has come to be in the Congress: bypassing committees on major policy issues.